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# ENERGY FACILITY SITING COUNCIL

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■ Marcy Grail, Chair ■ Kent Howe Vice-Chair ■ Hanley Jenkins II ■ Mary Winters ■ Cindy Condon ■ Jordan Truitt

March 1, 2021

Co-Chair Kathleen Taylor  
Co-Chair Jeff Reardon  
Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**RE: Department of Energy Budget**

Dear Co-Chair Reardon, Co-Chair Taylor and Members of the Committee:

My name is Marcy Grail, and I am an Assistant Business Manager for the Internal Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 125. IBEW Local 125 has approximately 3,300 members who work in the Pacific Northwest's electric utility industry. We represent members working in the utility, outside construction, and line clearance tree trimming sectors of the electric utility industry. I have also served as one of seven members of the governor appointed and senate confirmed Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) since 2016 and am currently the chair.

EFSC is charged with the review and decision making on large-scale energy projects that are key to the generation and transmission of energy to Oregonians, such as solar PV, wind, and high voltage transmission lines. Because these are large infrastructure projects, they can be extremely complex which often generates significant support and opposition. While EFSC is the sole decisionmaker on these projects, we are volunteers and therefore necessarily rely on the staff at the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE). Staff completes the needed work with applicants, state agencies, local governments, tribal governments and members of the public to provide us the information and support necessary to be an independent decision-making body.

During the time that I have been on EFSC, I have witnessed an ODOE staff dedicated to a timely, fair, inclusive, and transparent review process. They proactively engage all interested stakeholders to ensure all relevant information is included in the record so they can be confident in their recommendations to us whether each proposed project meets all applicable standards and any impacts are minimized or mitigated. Despite the controversial nature of some of these projects and the charged positions of the different stakeholders that can result, ODOE staff ensures that all comments and positions are equally evaluated and presented to EFSC.

The work of EFSC is critical to Oregonians. It would be beyond challenging for EFSC members to fulfill their duties without the same level of continued and thorough support which has been provided by ODOE staff. In my role as chair, I have an even better view of staff's contribution to the successful execution of our duties. In summary, I respectfully request that you join me in support the ODOE budget and encourage your approval of it. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcy Grail". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Marcy Grail  
Chair  
Oregon Energy Facilities Siting Council